

## Agricultural Prices

**Utah:** Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-May 2003, compared with April 2003, down for barley, up for alfalfa hay, and other hay remained the same, according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service.

The lamb price for April 2003 was \$93.00 per cwt, up \$27.00 from May 2002. The April 2003 sheep price, at \$28.00 was \$6.00 above May 2002.

Barley, at \$2.60 per bushel, was down 15 cents from the previous month's price but 33 cents above last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$99.00 per ton, up \$6.00 from last month and \$11.00 above last year. Other hay, at \$76.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month but \$19.00 higher than May 2002.

**United States:** The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May is 107, based on 1990 - 92=100, up six points (5.9 percent) from the April Index. All commodity group indexes except potatoes and dry beans, tobacco, and the other crops category increased since last month. Higher prices for lettuce, hogs, broilers, and soybeans more than offset lower prices for eggs, asparagus, onions, and tomatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of cantaloupes, grapes, sweet corn, and peaches offset decreased marketings of cattle, dairy, apples, and asparagus.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 11 points (12 percent) from May 2002. Higher prices for cattle, lettuce, corn, and soybeans more than offset lower prices for dairy, potatoes, sweet corn, and tomatoes.

The Food Commodities Index increased 7 points (7.1 percent) above last month to 106, and is 11 points (12 percent) above May last year.

### Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Utah			United States		
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
		May 2002	Apr 2003	May 2003 <sup>1</sup>	May 2002	Apr 2003	May 2003 <sup>1</sup>
Livestock & Products							
Lambs	Dol/Cwt	66.00	93.00	( <sup>2</sup> )	64.40	93.60	( <sup>2</sup> )
Sheep	Dol/Cwt	22.00	28.00	( <sup>2</sup> )	25.30	30.90	( <sup>2</sup> )
Crops							
Barley	Dol/Bu	2.27	2.75	2.60	2.24	2.87	2.90
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	88.00	93.00	99.00	108.00	96.20	102.00
Other Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	57.00	76.00	76.00	79.20	86.40	87.30

<sup>1</sup> Prices refer to sales occurring about the 15th of the month.

<sup>2</sup> May data will be published next month.